

# War of 1812

18 June 1812 to 24 Dec 1814

## Progress of the War

**Declaration of War.** On June 1, 1812, President Madison asked Congress to declare war against Great Britain. He gave as his reasons the impressment of United States seamen and the interference with United States trade. He charged also that the British had stirred up Indian warfare in the Northwest. Congress declared war on June 18, 1812. Two days earlier, the British Foreign Minister had announced that the Orders in Council would be repealed, but word of this announcement did not reach America until after the war had begun.

## — IMPORTANT DATES IN THE WAR OF 1812 —

- 1812** (June 18) The United States declared war on Great Britain.
- 1812** (Oct. 13) British forces won the Battle of Queenston Heights in Canada.
- 1813** (April 27) The Americans captured York (now Toronto), the capital of Upper Canada. They later burned some public buildings.
- 1813** (Sept. 10) American forces under Master-Commandant Oliver Hazard Perry won the Battle of Lake Erie.
- 1813** (Oct. 5) The Americans won the Battle of the Thames River in Moraviantown, an Indian village in Canada.
- 1814** (Aug. 24) British troops invaded Washington, D.C., and burned the Capitol and the White House.
- 1814** (Sept. 11) American forces won the Battle of Lake Champlain.
- 1814** (Dec. 24) The Americans and the British signed a peace treaty in Ghent, Belgium.
- 1815** (Jan. 8) American forces won the Battle of New Orleans. News of the peace treaty did not reach the United States until after this battle.

5-10-2000 rrg

World Bk 21: 26-31

Many historians believe that a leading motive of the War Hawks was a desire for expansion. The people of the Northwest were meeting armed resistance in their attempt to take more land from the Indians, and they believed that the Indians had considerable British support. An American army was attacked by Indians at the Battle of Tippecanoe in the Wabash Valley in November, 1811, and British guns were found on the battlefield. The Westerners, therefore, were anxious to drive the British out of Canada. Southerners looked longingly at Florida, which belonged to Great Britain's ally, Spain. The South had also suffered a serious loss of markets. But the deciding motive for war seems to have been a strong desire for more territory.

### **Progress of the War**

**Declaration of War.** On June 1, 1812, President Madison asked Congress to declare war against Great Britain. He gave as his reasons the impressment of United States seamen and the interference with United States trade. He charged also that the British had stirred up Indian warfare in the Northwest. Congress declared war on June 18, 1812. Two days earlier, the British Foreign Minister had announced that the Orders in Council would be repealed, but word of this announcement did not reach America until after the war had begun.

### **———— IMPORTANT DATES IN THE WAR OF 1812 ————**

- 1812** (June 18) The United States declared war on Great Britain.
  - 1812** (Oct. 13) British forces won the Battle of Queenston Heights in Canada.
  - 1813** (April 27) The Americans captured York (now Toronto), the capital of Upper Canada. They later burned some public buildings.
  - 1813** (Sept. 10) American forces under Master-Commandant Oliver Hazard Perry won the Battle of Lake Erie.
  - 1813** (Oct. 5) The Americans won the Battle of the Thames River in Moraviantown, an Indian village in Canada.
  - 1814** (Aug. 24) British troops invaded Washington, D.C., and burned the Capitol and the White House.
  - 1814** (Sept. 11) American forces won the Battle of Lake Champlain.
  - 1814** (Dec. 24) The Americans and the British signed a peace treaty in Ghent, Belgium.
  - 1815** (Jan. 8) American forces won the Battle of New Orleans. News of the peace treaty did not reach the United States until after this battle.
-